

# **1. Who decides how much I should pay in property taxes each year?**

Each year the county assessor is responsible for determining the value of your property for taxing purposes. The assessor will mail each property owner a Notice of Value. This advance notice (not a tax bill) includes the property value, description of the property and any exemptions you may have claimed. The state Department of Finance and Administration will use the county assessor's property values to calculate the tax rates that the county treasurer will use to determine how much you owe. [\(This will take you to more information about the state's property tax formula.\)](#)The county treasurer will mail each property owner a tax bill.

## **Here's how it works:**

**Jan. 1**, the county assessor determines the taxable value of each taxable piece of property.

**April 1**, the county assessor mails you a "Notice of Value" telling you how much your property is valued for tax purposes.

**June 15**, the county assessor has to deliver the countywide total taxable values to the state.

**Sept. 1**, the state Department of Finance and Administration sets the property tax rates.

By **Sept. 15**, our County Commission must vote to impose the rates set by the state.

**Oct. 1**, the county assessor prepares the property tax schedule (tax roll) for the county and gives it to the county treasurer for billing.

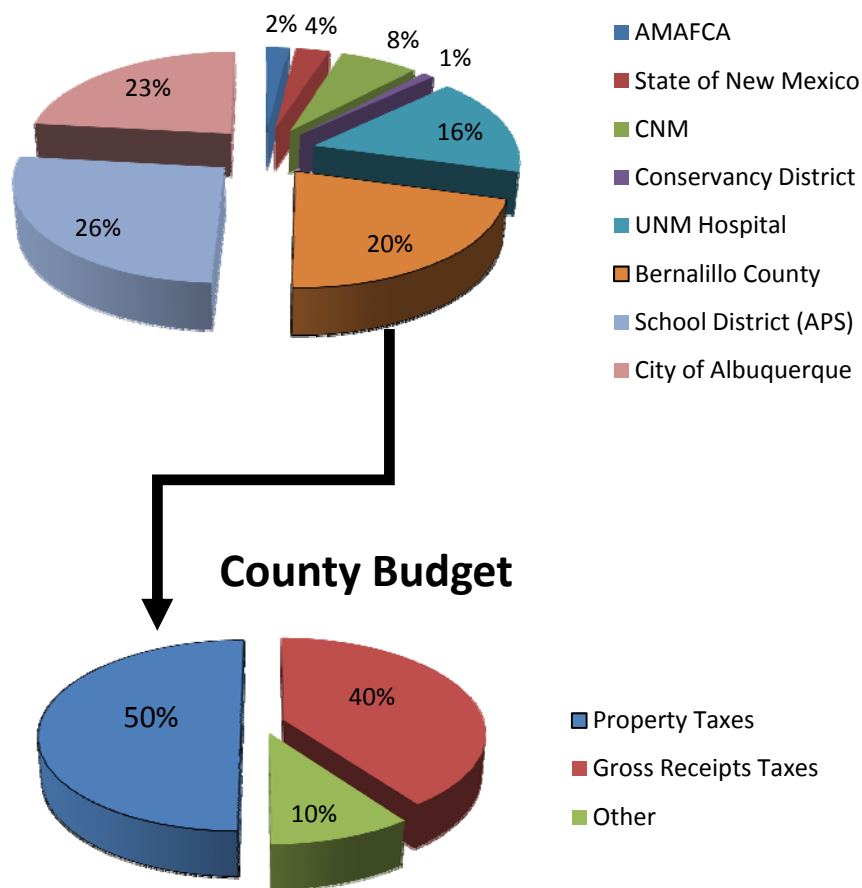
**Nov. 1**, the county treasurer mails you your tax bill based on the values set in January of that same year.

## 2. Who receives my property tax money?

As you can see on this **first pie chart**, Bernalillo County receives about 20 percent of the amount you pay in property taxes. The rest of the money goes to the state, the City of Albuquerque, UNM Hospital, CNM, and other agencies within the county to provide the services they offer.

Now, take a look at the **second pie chart**. Here, you'll see that the 20 percent of the property tax revenue that Bernalillo County keeps goes into its general operating fund—comprising about 50 percent of its total annual budget.

### Where your property taxes go



You can see that about 20 percent of what you are charged for property taxes goes to the County, but that 20 percent makes up about half of Bernalillo County's operating budget each year.

### **3. When do I have to pay my property taxes?**

The first half of your property taxes is due Nov. 10 and becomes delinquent Dec.10. The second half is due April 10 and becomes delinquent after May 10.

### **4. What do I do if I don't agree with how much I am being charged for property taxes?**

After you make your first payment Nov.10, you have 60 days (by January 10) to file a “petition of protest” with the county assessor or a “claim for refund” in district court if you feel your property taxes are too high.

### **5. How do I pay my property taxes?**

You can pay your taxes in person at the County Treasurer's Office located in the basement level of One Civic Plaza NW (corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Marquette in downtown Albuquerque) or by mail using the envelope enclosed with your tax bill by enclosing the coupon from the tax bill. Please mail it to: Bernalillo County Treasurer, P.O. Box 269, Albuquerque, NM 87103.

There also are drop box locations to pay your property tax bill—just look for the county seal on the drop box location:

- Corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Marquette NW in downtown Albuquerque
- Village of Tijeras
- Paradise Hills Community Center
- Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center
- Westside Community Center

You can also pay at the following locations from Nov.1 through Dec.10 and April 1 through May 10:

- First Community Bank,
- Peoples Bank, NA,
- First Financial Credit Union,
- US New Mexico Federal Credit Union,
- Compass Bank,
- Rio Grande Credit Union,
- Bank of Albuquerque,
- Bank 1st,
- Wells Fargo, NA
- New Mexico Bank and Trust,

- My Bank,
- State Employees Credit Union.

If you want to pay with cash, the financial institution will require that you convert the cash to a money order at your own expense.

**Also**, credit cards are accepted online but a convenience fee will be charged by a third party payment processing company if you use that method. For more information, go to this link on the Bernalillo County website:

[https://www.bernco.gov/globalbasket/paymenthome.aspx?p\\_PageAlias=paymenthome](https://www.bernco.gov/globalbasket/paymenthome.aspx?p_PageAlias=paymenthome)